

# Community Link

Creating connections

Κοινωνικός Κρίκος

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## FIRST COMMUNITY LINK GATHERING



Community Link volunteers preparing the Vasilopites

Taking the Vasilopites fresh from the oven



Sharing the Vasilopita with members of our community

On Saturday, January 15, members of the Annunciation Cathedral—children and high school students, young adults and seniors—came together to strengthen the bonds of our community, reaching out to others in the name of Christ.

**If you would like to get involved**, plan to come to our next gathering on **Saturday, February 19, at 10:00 AM**. We will be baking and decorating Valentine's cookies to share with those we visit. Contact Fr. Paul Schroeder at (415) 753-3075 or [frpaul@sanfran.goarch.org](mailto:frpaul@sanfran.goarch.org) for more details.

**If you know someone who would like a visit** (seniors, those undergoing illness or a particularly stressful time, or those celebrating a joyful occasion such as the birth of a child), call our visitation coordinator, Irene Avdoulos, at (415) 863-6981, or call the Cathedral Office at (415) 864-8000. All calls will be handled with confidentiality and sensitivity to your privacy.

Next Gathering:  
Saturday, February 19  
10:00 AM

## Sometimes Little Things Make a Big Difference

By Lainey Pizanis

It's amazing how much a warm loaf of bread, a smile, and time spent in conversation with someone will touch a person's heart. On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 20 members of our parish answered the call to participate in the first *Community Link* ministry meeting. Our goal was to bake 20 Vasilopitas for 20 visitations. Our lively group ranged in age from seven year old Zachary Schroeder to three seniors, Irene Avdoulos and John and Christina Johns.



Our crew arrived with mixing bowls, wooden spoons and enthusiasm as Presvytera Elizabeth Schroeder walked us through the stages of baking Vasilopita. We mixed the ingredients, kneaded the dough, laughed and got to know each other and prayed our bread would rise. The kitchen smelled heavenly!

Fr. Paul assigned us into teams of two or three and sent us off with our warm loaves of bread and directions. It is hard to describe with words the connection some of us experienced with those we visited. Sometimes little things make a big difference.

My mother once told me that the best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your own arm. Mom was right, and I wholeheartedly encourage those of you with some spare time to join us in our once-a-month visitations. The *parea* will warm your soul.